UNITED NATIONS

TD

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.
GENERAL

TD/B(S-XVIII)/1
22 November 1995

Original : ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Eighteenth special session
Geneva, 11 December 1995
Item 1(a) of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE SESSION

Annotated provisional agenda and organization of work

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA */

1. Procedural matters:

   (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the session;

   (b) Adoption of the report on credentials

2. Review of the functioning of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD in accordance with the Cartagena Commitment and subsequent relevant decisions of the Board

3. Preparations for the review by the Conference of the lists of States annexed to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)

4. Other business

5. Adoption of the report of the Board.

---

*/ As approved by the Board at its 867th plenary meeting on 19 September 1995.

GE.95-53881

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Procedural matters

The rules of procedure of the Board are contained in TD/B/16/Rev.4 and Corr.1.

Item 1(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the session

Agenda

At its 867th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1995, the Board approved the provisional agenda for its eighteenth special session as reproduced in Section I above.

Documentation

TD/B(S-XVIII)/1 Annotated provisional agenda

Organization of work

The eighteenth special session of the Board has been convened as part of the preparatory process for the ninth session of the Conference. A proposed schedule of meetings is annexed hereto. The organization of work of the Board is designed for maximum interaction in an informal setting, with one opening plenary for general statements and a closing final plenary on Friday. It is understood that this schedule is flexible and subject to amendment in the light of developments.

Item 1(b) Adoption of the report on credentials

In accordance with rule 17.2 of the rules of procedure, "The Bureau of the Board shall examine the credentials and submit their report to the Board."

In-session documentation

Item 2 Review of the functioning of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD in accordance with the Cartagena Commitment and subsequent relevant decisions of the Board

In paragraphs 64 - 87 of the Cartagena Commitment, the Conference addressed the question of strengthening UNCTAD's intergovernmental machinery and improving its methods of work.

In response to paragraph 68 of the Cartagena Commitment, the Board conducted (from 25 - 27 May 1994) a mid-term review and evaluation of the work programme of UNCTAD's intergovernmental machinery, resulting in the adoption of conclusions and decisions 415(XL), of 27 May 1994. Also in connection with technical assistance, the Board adopted agreed conclusions 421 (XLI), of 30 September 1994.

At the first part of its forty-second session, in the context of preparations for the ninth session of the Conference, the Board decided to convene the eighteenth special session to review the functioning of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD and took note that the President would be conducting informal consultations to prepare for that session of the Board. This series of informal consultations began on 23 October 1995, with the aim of submitting to the eighteenth special session of the Board a "President's paper" on the future structure and functioning of UNCTAD's intergovernmental machinery.

Documentation

TD/B(S-XVIII)/CRP.1	Review of the functioning of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD

In connection with this item, it will be recalled that, at its eleventh (pre-sessional) executive session the Board, in taking action on the reports of the Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation (third session), the Standing Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries (third session), the Standing Committee on Services (Shipping) (third session) and the Final Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Role of Enterprises in Development, decided to remit the reports (or relevant extracts) to its eighteenth special session, together with background documentation. The relevant documentation is listed below.

Documentation

TD/B/42(1)/7- TD/B/CN.2/16	Report of the Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation on its third session (Annex I, paras, 10-14) Annex II, paras. 38-44)
TD/B/CN.2/15	Review of the implementation of the work programme of the Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation, and proposed future orientation of the work of the Committee
TD/B/42(1)/7- TD/B/CN.3/16	Report of the Standing Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries on its third session (Annex I and Annex III (paras. 27-31)
TD/B/CN.3/15	Review of the Work Programme of the Standing Committee on ECDC, with special emphasis on the preparations for UNCTAD IX
TD/B/42(1)/5- TD/B/CN.4/50	Report of the Standing Committee on Services (Shipping) on its third session (paras. 66-72)
TD/B/CN.4/48	Review of the work programme of the Standing Committee on Services (Shipping) with special emphasis on the preparations for UNCTAD IX
TD/B/42(1)/17- TD/B/WG.7/8	Final Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Role of Enterprises in Development

In addition the Board is invited to take formal action on the reports and activities of the following subsidiary bodies which have met since the first part of the forty-second session.

(a) Standing Committee of Developing Services Sectors: Fostering Competitive Services Sectors in Developing Countries

The Standing Committee on Services held its third session from 25 to 29 September 1995. Particular attention is drawn to paragraphs 32-40 of the report on the session, reflecting the Committee's review of its work programme.

The Board may wish to take note of the report of the Standing Committee on its third session and in taking action on the agreed recommendations in annex I, concerning future work in UNCTAD in the field of services, the Board may also wish to decide that paragraphs 32-40 of the report should be taken into account during its discussions under item 2, together with the related report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/CN/4/44).

Documentation

TD/B/42(2)/2- TD/B/CN.4/55	Report of the Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors: Fostering Competitive Services Sectors in Developing Countries on its third session
TD/B/CN.4/44	Review of the work programme of the Standing Committee on Services with special emphasis on preparations for UNCTAD IX

(b) Standing Committee on Commodities

The Standing Committee on Commodities held its fourth session from 30 October to 3 November 1995.

In taking note of the report, the Board may wish to take action on the agreed conclusions contained in annex I, reflecting the outcome of the Committee's review of its work programme, it being understood that they will be taken into account in discussions under item 2, with the relevant secretariat report being made available as background.

Attention is drawn to paragraph 62 of the report, whereby the Standing Committee recommended to the Trade and Development Board that it suspend the activities of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Tungsten until the Board could determine that there was adequate support to reinitiate it in the future. The Board may wish to take a formal decision in this regard and, pursuant to views expressed at the Standing Committee's session, request the secretariat to continue its statistical and analytical work on Tungsten.

With regard to annex II, the Board may also wish to take note of the report of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on State Participation and Privatization in the Minerals Sector.

Documentation

TD/B/42(2)/5- TD/B/CN.1/34	Report of the Standing Committee on Commodities on its fourth session
TD/B/CN.1/31	Review of the work programme of the Standing Committee on Commodities, with special emphasis on the preparations for UNCTAD IX

(c) Special Committee on Preferences

The twenty-second session of the Special Committee on Preferences was held from 23 to 27 October 1995. In taking note of the report, the Board may wish to take note of the Chairman's summary of discussions, contained in annex I, and to decide that paragraphs 17-19 thereof, concerning the future role and work of the Committee, should be taken into account in the Board's discussions under item 2 of the agenda at its current session.

The Board may also wish to take action on the provisional agenda which the Committee approved for its twenty-third session, reproduced in annex III.

With regard to annex II, the Board may wish to take action on the decisions adopted by the Special Committee concerning technical modifications to GSP certificate of origin, Form A.

In response to paragraph 20 of the report, the Board may wish to adopt the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Rules of Origin, contained in annex I to the report on the Intergovernmental Group of Experts's session (TD/B/SCP/14-TD/B/SCP/AC.1/3) and to request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to arrange for the necessary follow-up.

Documentation

TD/B/42(2)/4- TD/B/SCP/16	Report of the Special Committee on Preferences on its twenty-second session
TD/B/SCP/14- TD/B/SCP/AC.1/3	Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Rules of Origin

(d) Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget

By its decision 429 (EX-8), of 29 June 1995, the Board endorsed the agreed conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Working Party at its twenty-fifth session, and agreed that, at its eighteenth special session, it would consider Part B of these conclusions and recommendations. The text will be made available to the Board.

The twenty-sixth session of the Working Party will be held from 4 to 8 December to conduct a review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing. The outcome will be reported to the Board at its eighteenth special session.

(e) Standing Committee on Services (Insurance)
Third session (13-17 November 1995)

(f) Ad Hoc Working Group on Trade, Environment and Development,
Third session (6-10 November 1995)
Final Report

(g) Ad Hoc Working Group on Trading Opportunities in the New International Trading Context,
Second session (4-8 December 1995)
Final Report

(h) Ad Hoc Working Group to Explore the Issue of Structural Adjustment for the Transition to Disarmament,
only session (27 November - 1 December 1995)

With regard to items (e) to (h) above, and due to the proximity of the meetings to the eighteenth special session of the Board the respective outcomes will be reported to the Board so that they can be taken into account under agen item 2.

Item 3 Preparations for the review by the Conference of the lists of States annexed to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)

Paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), of 30 December 1964 provides that the lists of States annexed to that resolution "shall be reviewed periodically by the Conference in the light of changes in membership of the Conference and other factors." The lists were last reviewed by the Conference a its seventh session in 1987.

At its eighth session, the Conference took note of the new members of UNCT and decided that these States should be included in the appropriate lists in accordance with a decision of the Board, based on a recommendation of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD.

At its eighteenth special session, the Board will be required to make a recommendation to the Conference concerning the allocation to the respective lists of those States which have become members of UNCTAD since the seventh session of the Conference.

Item 4 Other business

Item 5 Adoption of the report of the Board

The Board may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the President, to prepare the report of the Board on its eighteenth special session.

Annex

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS
(11 - 15 December 1995)

Monday 11/12	**Tuesday 12/12**	**Wednesday 13/12**	**Thursday 14/12**	**Friday 15/12**
11 a.m. **PLENARY** Opening of Session 1(a) Adoption of agenda and org. of work 2 Review of intergovernmental machinery	10 a.m. **INFORMALS** (Item 2)	10 a.m. **INFORMALS** (Item 2)	10 a.m. **INFORMALS** (Item 2)	10 a.m. **INFORMALS** (Item 2)
3 p.m. **BUREAU** Lists of States Other matters followed by **INFORMALS** (Item 2)	3 p.m. **INFORMALS** (Item 2)	3 p.m. **INFORMALS** (Item 2)	3 p.m. **BUREAU** Credentials Other matters	**PLENARY** 1(b) Credentials 2 Review of inter-governmental machinery 3 Review of lists of States 4 Other business 5 Adoption of report